Skill development mission

3333. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether skill development is taking place in a very diffused manner as quality of skill development institutes is very poor and out ITIs, polytechnics are not imparting world class skills;

(b) whether it is a fact that schemes for higher/technical education in the country are suffering due to non-utilization of funds and other valuable resources available in the country;

(c) the funds allocated to State Governments/NGOs during last three years, indicating details of funds spent/unutilized, till date; and

(d) the measures Government has taken to ensure that 100 per cent funds are utilized in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Government is consistently taking steps to maintain quality skill development institutes and to bridge the skill deficit through agglomeration of programmes and institutes.

(b) Ministry of Human Resource Development has formulated a framework for the implementation of vocational education and training during Eleventh Plan period. During 2008-09, an amount of Rs. 143.30 crore has been provided for setting up of new polytechnics and vocationalization of secondary education. Steps are being taken for the optimal utilization of the allocated funds.

(c) There are a number of schemes for skill development and higher/technical education being undertaken by State Governments/NGOs. Funds under the schemes are released as per the guidelines for each scheme and releases are made depending upon the level of utilization.

(d) Each scheme has its own monitoring and evaluation mechanism and the Government is consistently making efforts to ensure effective utilization of funds by strengthening, delivery, consultative and monitoring mechanism.

Demonstration against Planning Commission

3334. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a women's organisation had demonstrated on 4th March, 2008 against Planning Commission;

(b) whether the Commission received any memorandum from the organisation; and

(c) if so, the steps that are being taken to meet the issues raised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.